### (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

## (19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau





## (43) International Publication Date 27 October 2005 (27.10.2005)

### **PCT**

# (10) International Publication Number WO 2005/100886 A2

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>:

F25D

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP2005/051633

(22) International Filing Date: 13 April 2005 (13.04.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data: MI2004 A 000737 14 April 2004 (14.04.2004) I

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION [—/US]; 2000 M 63, Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022 (US).

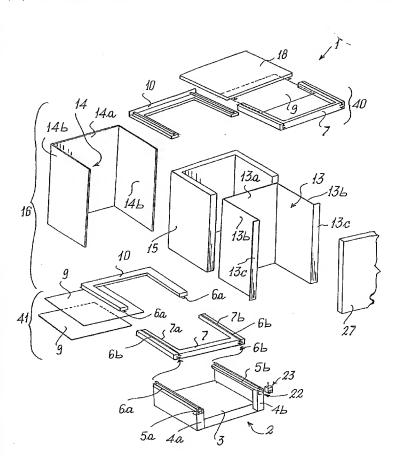
(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BETTO, Federico [IT/IT]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT). DAHM, Johan [SE/—]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi

27, I-21025 Comerio (IT). MOLTENI, Paolo [IT/IT]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT). PUCCIARINI, Anna [IT/IT]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT). RESTELLI, Monica [IT/IT]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT). RUGGERI, Luca [IT/IT]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT). STROPPIANA, Alberto [IT/IT]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT). PETRALI, Pierluigi [IT/IT]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT). PICOZZI, Andrea [IT/IT]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT). PALLAORO, Ruggero [IT/IT]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT). CASAPICCOLA, Stefano [IT/IT]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT). GIANNICO, Giovanni [IT/IT]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi

[Continued on next page]

### (54) Title: MODULAR REFRIGERATION AND/OR FREEZER APPLIANCE



(57) Abstract: A modular refrigeration and/or freezer appliance comprising at least one U-shaped module (16) which can be fitted to other modules to define, together with closure walls and at least one frontal door, a thermally insulated compartment, said U-shaped module (16) being installable vertically, there being provided, in correspondence with said closure walls (40, 41), reversible connection means (6a, 6b, 30) between the U-shaped modules (16) or between said U-shaped module and other modular components (2) of the refrigeration appliance.

## WO 2005/100886 A2

- 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT). **BERTUZZI**, **Marco** [IT/IT]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT). **ARAMINI**, **Amneris** [IT/IT]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT). **SACCHI**, **Daniele** [IT/IT]; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT).
- (74) Agent: GUERCI, Alessandro; Whirlpool Europe s.r.l., Patent Dept., V.le G. Borghi 27, I-21025 Comerio (IT).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

### **Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

#### Published:

 without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.